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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of February, 1986)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during February declined by fifteen from the January total. The land crew total decreased by fifteen and the marine crew total remained stable for the third successive month at thirty-nine. The total number of crews and vessels fell below three hundred for the first time since April, 1977 when the total was 292.

The February total (295) represents a decrease of 5% from last month, a 27% decrease from February, 1985, a 39% decrease from February, 1984, a 35% decrease from February, 1983, a 56% decrease from February, 1982, a 51% decrease from February, 1981, and a decrease of 37% from the same month in 1980.

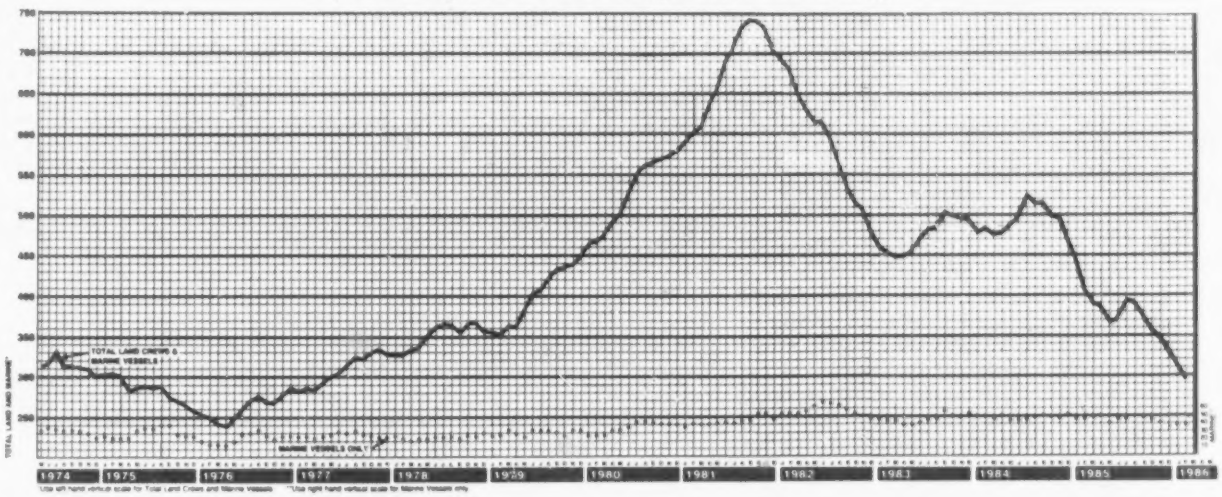
During February, six contractors were operating twelve of the 226 land crews and two of the thirty-four vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Feb.'85	Feb.'84	Feb.'83	Feb.'82	Feb.'81	Feb.'80
	295	310	406	486	451	678	602	469

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Feb. 1985	Feb. 1984	Feb. 1983	Feb. 1982	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Feb. 1985	Feb. 1984	Feb. 1983	Feb. 1982	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980
62 Contr's:	226	240	326	396	362	582	520	401	34	34	38	45	40	46	34	24
8 Oil Co's:	30	31	34	37	42	43	41	39	5	5	7	8	7	7	7	5
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	256	271	360	433	404	625	561	440	39	39	46	53	47	53	41	29

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

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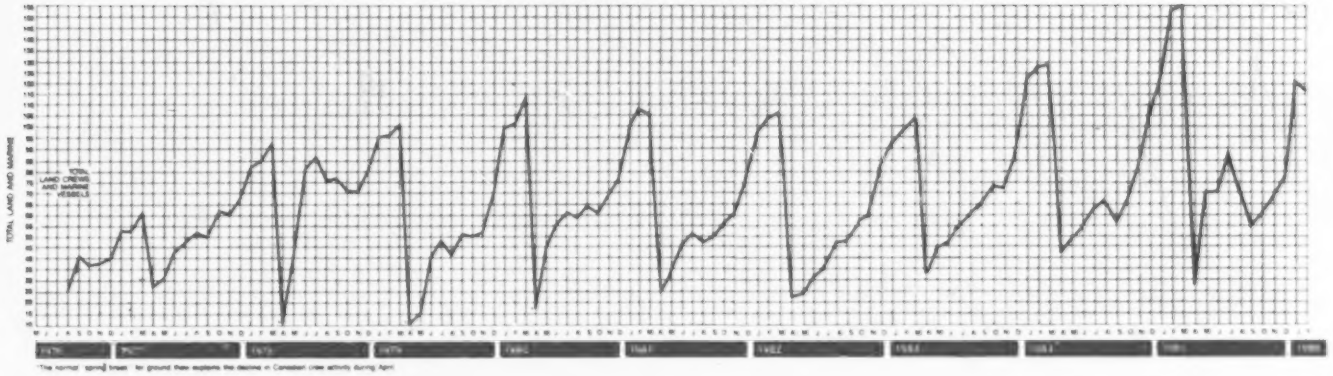
CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

February, 1986 (January figures in parentheses)

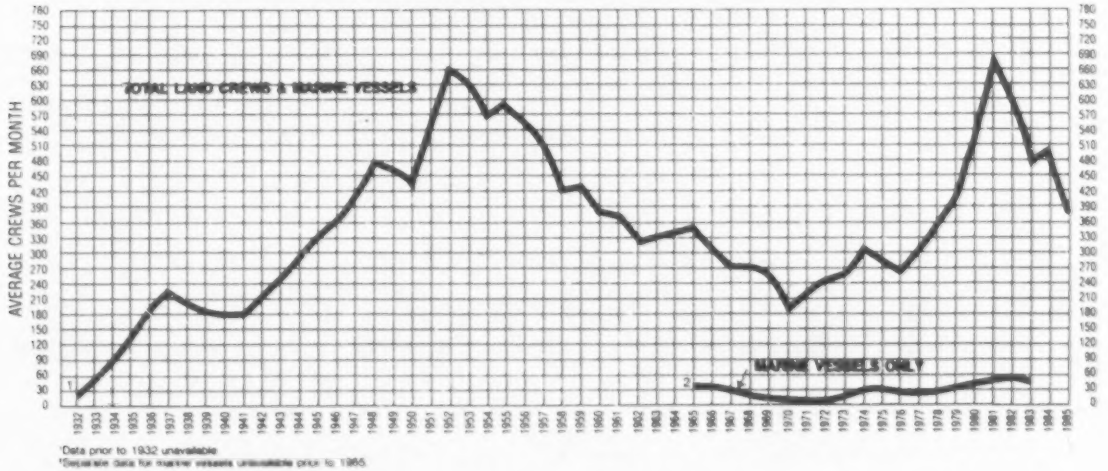
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
30 Contractors:	113 (118)	1 (2)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	116 (121)	1 (2)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



[1] Data prior to 1932 unavailable
[2] Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1955